

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: USIRJC

SUBJECT: AGENDA FOR ECONOMY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

1. IN CONJUNCTION WITH PREPARATIONS FOR FORTHCOMING
ECONOMY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING IN TEHRAN, DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE REQUESTS EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO
SENIOR DEPUTY MINISTER JALIL SHORAKA FROM UNDER SECRETARY
VETTER.

2. DEAR MINISTER SHORAKA: AS YOU ARE AWARE, JAMES A.
BAKER III RECENTLY LEFT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, AND
I HAVE ASSUMED HIS DUTIES AS UNDER SECRETARY. I KNOW WHAT
A GREAT INTEREST HE TOOK IN THE WORK OF THE U.S.-IRAN
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JOINT COMMISSION, AND I HAVE DISCUSSED WITH HIM AT

CONSIDERABLE LENGTH THE IMPORTANCE OF BROAD AND EFFECTIVE ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. I AM VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU THROUGH OUR CO-CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE ECONOMY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

3. IN FORMER UNDER SECRETARY BAKER'S LETTER TO YOU OF MAY 7, HE MENTIONED TO YOU OUR INTEREST IN A MEETING OF THE ECONOMY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MEETING OF THE FULL U.S.-IRAN JOINT COMMISSION. I

UNDERSTAND THAT THE FULL COMMISSION NOW HOPES TO MEET IN TEHRAN AT THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST. ASSUMING THAT IT DOES SO, I WOULD PROPOSE THAT THE ECONOMY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE HOLD ITS MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4.

4. IF THIS DATE IS ACCEPTABLE TO YOU, WE SUGGEST THAT THE AGENDA BE DIVIDED INTO TWO MAJOR HEADINGS: PROGRESS REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES OF THE ECONOMY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE; AND NEW INITIATIVES. FOR THE PROGRESS REPORTS, THE U.S. SIDE WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING:

A. TRADE: HOW RECENT TRADE TRENDS COMPARE WITH OUR TRADE --- TARGET; REPORT ON MARCH 1976 MEETING IN TEHRAN OF THE --- JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL.

B. FINANCE: REVIEWS OF U.S. AND IRANIAN INVESTMENT --- POLICIES; REPORT ON MARCH 1976 U.S.-IRAN FINANCIAL --- CONFERENCE; RECENT VISIT TO IRAN OF PERFORMANCE BOND --- TEAM; STATUS OF DISCUSSIONS ON DOUBLE TAXATION.

C. TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE: PROGRESS UNDER HIGH- --- WAY AGREEMENTS BETWEEN U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTA- --- TION AND IRANIAN MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT; --- STATUS OF PROPOSED AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AGREEMENT; --- OTHER WORKING GROUP RESPONSIBILITIES.

5. UNDER NEW INITIATIVES, THE U.S. SIDE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS:

A. PORT DEVELOPMENT: VISIT TO UNITED STATES IN JULY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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--- 1976 OF IRANIAN PORT OFFICIALS; PROPOSED NEW EMPHASIS --- ON PORT DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSPORTATION WORKING GROUP.

B. HOUSING: RECENT U.S. VISIT OF IRAN'S VICE MINISTER --- OF HOUSING; PROPOSED PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL SEMINARS --- ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; PROPOSED WORKING --- GROUP MEETING IN CONJUNCTION WITH U.S. TRADE SHOW.

C. U.S. PARTICIPATION IN IRAN'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT:

- CASE REVIEW OF PENDING JOINT VENTURE PROJECTS;
- DEVELOPMENT OF LIST OF MAJOR PROJECTS FOR PUBLICATION
- BY JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL; JOINT VENTURE POSSIBILITIES
- IN ELECTRONICS.

WHATEVER SUGGESTIONS YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE IN ANY OF THESE AREAS WILL CERTAINLY BE WELCOME.

6. AGAIN, I AM VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR FIRST MEETING, AND I AM HOPEFUL THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY MANY AVENUES THROUGH WHICH TO CONTINUE OUR CLOSE COOPERATION IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE. PLEASE ADVISE ME OF ANY RECOMMENDATIONS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING THE AGENDA OR ANY OTHER MATTERS. SINCERELY, EDWARD O. VETTER

7. EMBASSY REQUESTED PROVIDE NAMES OF IRANIAN DELEGATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. KISSINGER

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